



**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACT MEMO**

2005 Wisconsin Act 79
[2005 Assembly Bill 59]

**Zoning of and Actions Against
Forestry Operations**

2005 Wisconsin Act 79 provides that no political subdivision (city, village, town, or county) may enact a zoning ordinance that prohibits forestry operations that are in accordance with generally accepted forestry management practices. The Act also provides that a forestry operation may not be declared a nuisance if the forestry operation conforms to generally accepted forestry management practices. Under the Act, a forestry operation that conforms to generally accepted forestry management practices is not a nuisance as a result of any of the following:

- Change in ownership or size of a forest.
- Cessation or interruption of forestry operations.
- Enrollment of all or part of the forest in governmental forestry or conservation programs.
- Adoption of new forestry technology.

The Act defines “generally accepted forestry management practices” as practices that promote sound management of a forest, as determined by the Department of Natural Resources by rule.

Effective Date: The Act takes effect on January 7, 2006.

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,
consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.